

4/8/75

LEGAL ATTACHE

DISCOVERY OF EXTREMIST ARMS FACTORY

On 4/7/75, an official of the Buenos Aires Provincial Police (BAPP) provided the following information:

During the morning of 4/7/75, the BAPP, in a joint operation with officials of the State Secretariat for Information (SIDE), raided an extremist arms factory and assembly location in San Justo, Buenos Aires Province. In the raid components of 30 9 mm. machine guns were seized. Certain components seized were obviously fabricated in other locations; however, various other parts of the machine guns originated at the San Justo factory and assembly point. In addition, plans for a hand-operated bazooka were discovered among the technical material at the location. Specifications for the bazooka indicated it would be approximately 3 1/2 feet long and held with a pistol grip. The projectile for the bazooka was to be fired electrically, utilizing four large lantern batteries.

A married couple and another male individual were picked up at the factory and assembly site. These individuals all admitted to being members of the Montonero guerrilla organization. Information leading to the raid was secured from interrogations of various Tupamaros captured during the preceding week. Three of these Tupamaros have already been executed by security forces, since they refused to disclose any information.

During the morning of 4/7/75, the BAPP invited representatives of the three Argentine armed forces intelligence agencies to view the captured components for the machine gun. Shortly after the arrival of the armed forces representatives, a representative of the Federal Police of Argentina (FPA), Depart-

- 1 - Ambassador, Embassy, Montevideo
- 1 - POL
- 1 - POL/R
- 11 - Addressee
- 1 - CAG

~~SECRET~~

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Exemption Category 3B(1)(3)
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5/14/01
Argentine Project

- 4 - Buenos Aires ⁵⁴⁸
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(1 - 109-38)(1-80-Baldrige)

RWS:jn
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ment of Federal Security, appeared and requested that he be allowed to examine the arms factory and assembly point. Acting on orders from Buenos Aires Provincial Governor VICTOR CALABRO, the FPA representative was denied admittance and turned away.

The BAPP intend to maintain information concerning the discovery of the arms factory and assembly location a secret, inasmuch as they are acting on additional information secured through interrogations with prisoners.

The foregoing information should not be discussed with any foreign officials, including those of the Argentine and Uruguayan Governments.

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